

07-02-03  
EV317135699

PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application  
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number 09/677,478

Filing Date October 2, 2000

First Named Inventor Guy Blalock et al.

Group Art Unit 1765

Examiner Name L. Vinh

Attorney Docket Number MI22-1544

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TC 1700

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

**1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

a. ☐ Previously submitted

i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_

iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☒ Other PTO-Form 1449 and cited references

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**2. Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_

i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)

ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$984.00 enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

The PTO did not receive the following  
listed item(s) a check for \$984.00

but \$750.00

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print /Type) D. B. Kenady

Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 40,045

Signature *D. B. Kenady*

Date June 30, 2003

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type) Express Mail EV 317135699 US

Signature

Date June 30, 2003

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.



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#14/D  
7/2/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Serial No. . . . . 09/677,478  
Filing Date . . . . . October 2, 2000  
Inventor . . . . . Guy T. Blalock  
Assignee . . . . . Micron Technology, Inc.  
Group Art Unit . . . . . 1765  
Examiner . . . . . Lan Vinh  
Attorney's Docket No. . . . . MI22-1544  
Title: Plasma Etching Methods

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**RESPONSE TO MARCH 28, 2003 FINAL OFFICE ACTION**  
**ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

To: Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

From: D. Brent Kenady  
Tel. 509-624-4276; Fax 509-838-3424  
Wells St. John P.S.  
601 W. First Avenue, Suite 1300  
Spokane, WA 99201-3828

Responsive to the Final Office Action dated March 28, 2003, Applicant  
amends and remarks as follows:

**AMENDMENTS**

Underlines indicate insertions and ~~strikeouts~~ indicate deletions.

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